MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 JANUARY 1981

Islamic Conference Summit

In a speech to the 27 January morning session of the Islamic Conference summit in At-Ta'if, carried by PETRA-JNA, Jordan's King Husayn said Jerusalem is today the target of a "Zionist offensive" aimed at obliterating the city's "Arab and Islamic stamp." More than 90,000 Jews have encircled Jerusalem in settlements and suburbs, he noted, in order to impose "a new reality in the holy city." Husayn called for a "comprehensive Islamic plan" to build "Islamic power" into a "serious commitment" emphasizing the "size of our impact" in international arenas so as to guarantee the restoration of "our right to Jerusalem and its liberation." At the end of his speech, King Husayn reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to Palestinian self-determination under the PLO, "their sole legitimate representative," and denounced recent Israeli remarks about an "option or an alternative" aimed at "consecrating occupation."

According to SPA, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal revealed that during its evening session the summit heard a "comprehensive review" of the Palestinian issue from PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and it announced that the summit approved the Jerusalem Committee's recommendations for a program of "Islamic action" for the city.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's speech to the evening session was broadcast textually by Damascus radio. He described the Palestinian issue as "our main concern" and warned against plans to "subjugate" the Middle East to "imperialist and Zionist control." The United States, he said, is trying to "surround the area" with military bases and erect bases "inside this area" alongside Israel. According to SPA, the session also heard a speech by a representative of the Afghan mojahedin who said the battle in Afghanistan is between Islam and communism and warned that the Soviet occupation of the country is a "prelude to more far-reaching and wider colonialist transgression."

Despite an earlier report that Algerian President Chadli Benjedid would be among a party of Islamic heads of state on a mission to Tehran aimed at persuading Iran to attend the summit conference, AFP reported that an "authoritative Algerian source" denied that President Benjedid would be going to Tehran. A Libyan foreign affairs spokesman, cited by JANA, said it is politically impossible for Libya to attend the Islamic Conference summit in Saudi Arabia, which unilaterally broke off relations with Libya.

Israel

Saudi Arms Deal--During lengthy discussions with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Labor Alignment leader Shim'on Peres protested any West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia. Schmidt replied that his government has not yet made any decision on the issue, Jerusalem radio reported, and promised that if arms are supplied to Saudi Arabia, this will signal a change in West Germany's overall arms sales policy in the Middle East. Such a policy change, the radio speculated, would allow Israel also to buy West German arms. In a related report, the Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, citing "well-informed sources," reported that talks between Saudi Arabia and West Germany "have gone a long way" and representatives of the two countries will meet shortly to discuss details of the arms sale.

Reaction to U.S. Statements--According to Jerusalem radio, "political circles" in Jerusalem asserted that recent U.S. State Department statements criticizing the establishment of settlements on the West Bank are "not a cause for concern" and do not deviate from President Ronald Reagan's election campaign statements. A Foreign Ministry spokesman, however, took issue with the U.S. view about possible "moderate" elements in the PLO, stressing that the PLO is a terrorist organization and the existence of "moderate" elements is unproven.

Iran

Reaction to Hostages' Release--A Foreign Ministry statement strongly denied "rumors and propaganda" that the U.S. hostages had been tortured during their captivity. In the statement, carried by Tehran radio, the Foreign Ministry asserted that the torture charges are a result of "brainwashing" undertaken during the hostages' stay in West Germany and pointed out that "none" of the hostages said anything about torture or ill treatment when examined by the team of Algerian doctors who "certified" their "good health." The Foreign Ministry promised to distribute videocassettes of filmed interviews with the hostages to counter the "hostile propaganda." In a press conference reported by the radio, Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi also cited the filmed interviews as proof that the hostages had not been tortured. Nabavi termed "unlikely" reports that the United States will renege on the agreement.

More than 120 Majlis deputies addressed a letter to Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the radio reported, praising his government for "solving the issue of the American hostages" in accordance with the Majlis conditions. However, this "great achievement" does not end Iran's struggle against "blasphemy and universal oppression," the letter went on, noting that "criminal America" is trying to "cover up its defeat" and pretend the hostages' release was a "victory." The letter added that "unfortunately some newspapers" have assisted "the great Satan" in this objective in order to "poison" public opinion. The radio also reported that a Majlis deputy called on the "responsible officials" to limit the activities of "little groups" that are at present allowed to "conspire, murder and spread corruption" in Iran.

Assassination Plot--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr revealed that there was a conspiracy to assassinate him by firing an antitank weapon at his car while he was on tour in Khuzestan. An article by the president in the newspaper ENQELAB-E ESLAMI, cited by AFP, said that army intelligence uncovered the plot by an unidentified "political group" to assassinate him and seized documents detailing the method of attack and subsequent actions.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Reserve Callup--In a joint staff communique, carried by Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr ordered reservists who had completed their military service back to 1974 to report for active duty "on a voluntary basis" beginning on 4 February. Ahvaz radio broadcast a similar order for reservists to report to the Ramhormoz revolution guards unit.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces shelled various Iraqi positions around Susangerd, Dehloran and Ilam and also launched an attack across the Karkhehkur River, killing 50 Iraqi troops "in 3 minutes." An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, noted the Iranian attack but claimed to have decisively repulsed it. The communique also reported an Iraqi attack on Iran's Khark Island but did not specify the means of the attack.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ADN INTERVIEWS KESHTMAND ON DOMESTIC PROGRESS

LD261535 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0007 GMT 26 Jan 81

[By ADN correspondent Rainer Althaus]

[Text] Kabul, 26 Jan (AFN)--Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, deputy chairman of the Revolution Council of the Democartic Republic of Afghanistan, has stated that the 1st year of the new development phase of the revolution has brought positive developments in all sectors of the country's life. The PDPA Central Committee Politburo member said in an interview with the ADN correspondent in Kabul that it has been possible "to achieve successes by means of a number of important practical steps." It has been possible "to satisfy the people's most urgent needs, to develop the political organization of all popular strata, to improve the state's administrative apparatus at all levels and to achieve very good results in industry and agriculture, despite continuing sabotage acts by terrorists."

With fraternal support from the socialist states and other international aid it has been possible to safeguard, at reasonable prices, the supply of the most important foodstuffs and consumer goods practically throughout the country. Despite terrorist attacks on freight transport, roads, bridges and buildings, daily life has been even further normalized. "We have been unable to provide a paradise for the people," Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said, "but we did not promise that. Nevertheless, it is increasingly recognized that we are doing all we can for the gradual improvement of the life of the workers."

It is of the greatest importance that "all necessary preparations for establishing the national front of the homeland have been made." All of the country's forces have formed associations and other organizations. An "Islamic council," a government organ, has also been set up. As part of this process, the initial climax of which will be the first congress of the national front in March of April, "the confidence felt by broad sections of the population in the government and in its policy has been further consolidated."

There is every hope that the second year of the 5-year plan will be fulfilled in March. For the first time in years a balanced budget has been achieved. A consultative council for the promotion of the private economic sector has been created. In agriculture, a proven policy for the benefit of poor peasants is being continued. A law is being worked out now that will safeguard the effective and just utilization of limited water resources. A relevant body has been set up to effectively guide and control the local state organs. "We can look ahead with confidence," the deputy chairman of the Revolution Council said.

MTI INTERVIEWS YOUTH LEADER ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD272300 Budapest MTI in English 1716 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Helsinki, 27 Jan (MTI)--Special MTI correspondent Lajos Pogonyi reports from Helsinki:

Burhuddin Ghiasi, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Afghan Democratic Youth Organization, who led his country's delegation at the Helsinki world forum of youth and students on disarmament, has given an interview for MTI in Helsinki.

In the five-day conference, Ghiasi said, representatives of youth organizations of the most diverse political and ideological views strived to pave the way for the halting of the senseless arms race. These organizations are ready to promote the cause of disarmament, and expect the politicians to take practical steps toward the success of disarmament talks.

Speaking of his homeland, Ghiasi resolutely rejected Western propaganda allegations--voiced by some Western delegations also in the Helsinki forum--that the changes in Afghanistan are due to 'an export of revolution,' and the Soviet assistance to Afghanistan. The Soviet Union extended assistance to Afghanistan upon the request of the legal Kabul • government in order to protect that country's territorial integrity and independence, and to safeguard its sovereignty, Burhuddin Ghiasi declared.

Speaking of the foreign policy of the Afghan Government, he said circles have not given up the attempts to block the development of the Afghan revolution. Afghanistan, which has pursued a policy of positive non-alignment, is striving to have good-neighborly relations with countries of differing social systems. It honors the principles of peaceful coexistence and noninterference in one another's internal affairs. At the same time, it is in solidarity with the peoples struggling for their independence. The internationalist solidarity of the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist continues to be vital for the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to realize its revolutionary goals, Burhuddin Ghiasi concluded.

KABUL REPORTS ON TRADE WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

LD280520 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0428 GMT 28 Jan 81

[Text] Kabul, 27 Jan (BAKHTAR)--The exchange of goods between Czechoslovakia and the Democratic Republic of AFghanistan has increased this year and reaches fifty million dollars.

It is reported that Czechoslovakia will expand the dispatch of the products of machinery industries, machinery implements, mining tools and the machinery and tools for the electric stations of light industries which are under construction in Afghanistan.

Raw materials, fruits, cotton, the products of local and (?craft) industries are being exported from Afghanistan to Czechoslovakia.

GANDHI: NUCLEAR COMPETITION WITH PAKISTAN UNWANTED

BK271559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has said that a nuclear Pakistan will not be a threat to India only. In an interview to an Australian newspaper, she said India had to revitalize its nuclear program not because of Pakistan but due to her own needs of energy. India is also using nuclear energy for medicine, agriculture and power, all of which are very urgent needs. She said she does not think India wants to be in competition with Pakistan in this regard. We are against nuclear warfare and Pakistani leaders keep on saying the same themselves, which we hope is true, Mrs Gandhi added.

In reply to another question, the prime minister said she did not think Sino-Indian relations had received a setback after the visit to India of the Soviet president; India is anxious to normalize relations with China.

The prime minister was asked whether India had any way out except massive armament and mobilization of its immense manpower for its protection in view of the extreme turbulence in the region, like the Gulf war. Mrs Gandhi replied that India, along with other countries, certainly needed to keep its defenses in order, but we are nowhere near massive armament. The proportion we spend on defense is much less than some of our neighbors and most other countries.

DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST FRONT OPPOSITION PARTY FORMED

BK280837 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] A new political organization called the Democratic Socialist Front was launched in Bombay on 25 January under the chairmanship of H.N. Bahuguna, former minister. The All-India Democratic Socialist convention ended on 25 January. Speaking at the convention Bahaguna said the new organization will try to consolidate opposition parties to provide a viable national alternative to the ruling party.

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIAL ON HOSTAGE MALTREATMENT

LD271756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the remarks of some of the hostages and has been put at the disposal of the Central News Bureau:

In His exalted name. In connection with the unfounded rumors and hostile propaganda disseminated about the harm done to and torture of 52 American subjects in Iran, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran finds it necessary to bring the following points to the notice of all of the world's people:

1. In the holy religion of Islam, acts of hurt and torture are not only reprehensible but are great sins. For this reason, according to the knowledge that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has about the thinking and behavior of the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, it confidently and emphatically announces that the rumors of hurt done to and torture of the American subjects is a pure lie and is strongly denied.

2. These rumors and propanganda, whose main purpose is to harm the reputation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the international community, are, in fact, another example of the behavior and stance adopted by America against the Islamic revolution.

3. The remarks of some of the released hostages about ill treatment and torture are the result of evil indoctrination and brainwashing inflicted during the days when they, while completely healthy, were confined and imprisoned in Germany without even being permitted to meet their families.

4. Six specialist Algerian doctors examined all 52 hostages before they left Iran and confirmed that they were in good health.

5. The Algerian Government representatives had previously met and talked to all 52. During these discussions, none of them said anything indicating torture or ill treatment.

6. The ambassador of the Algerian Government in Tehran met them and certified in writing as to their health.

7. Before boarding the plane, the hostages were accompanied by two guards from the bus to the steps of the aircraft amid cries of "God is great" and "Death to America." The claim concerning any insult or beating is strongly denied.

8. The interviews filmed during the last 2 days of the 52 Americans' stay in Iran have been broadcast for the information of unbiased people in the world via communications satellite and television networks, and will soon be distributed throughout the world on videocassettes by representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Finally, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is confident that the world's free people will not be influenced by hostile propaganda from the enemies of freedom and liberty.

NABAVI ON CONSEQUENCES OF HOSTAGES' RELEASE

LD272224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, along with Ahmad Azizi, took part in a press conference this afternoon and replied to questions put to him by domestic and foreign newsmen about various issues, including the release of the U.S. hostages and the consequences of that action. According to a Central News Bureau correspondent, the minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, replying to the question: If the United States reneges on its undertakings, what will the Iranian Government do?, said: In a previous PARS interview I said that after the hostages' release the United States declared it was cheated, with the result that the entire Western press told the United States not to yield to Iran's ransom demand and then created a false atmosphere with the rumor that the hostages had been tortured in Iran. This was immediately rebutted by Iran and we broadcast by satellite to all world countries interviews with the hostages in which they speak of their well-being. PARS simultaneously broadcast them to the entire world and proved the facts, thereby eliminating the possibility that the interviews were edited. Nabavi added: In their interviews, three of the hostages denied that they were tortured; should the United States now renege on its undertakings, that would in effect be tantamount to flouting international undertakings. Actually this would be precisely what we want, as it would prove to the people of the world that the United States does not honor its undertakings. But we think it is unlikely that the United States will do such a thing.

In another part of the interview, Behzad Nabavi, replying to the question: In view of the lifting of the economic blockade by Britain and France, will military equipment be shipped to Iran?, said: This military equipment is rightfully ours; the Defense Ministry has followed up this issue and we will take delivery of everything.

In reply to the question: Did you see the hostages off?, the minister of state for executive affairs said: A report to that effect was carried by one of the evening papers. When the hostages were leaving Iran, the television was airing a live interview with me. At 1830 that day, I went to the airport to study the situation and to see off the Algerian delegation that had visited Iran, and I returned before the hostages arrived at the airport. Criticizing the paper, he said: Mr 'Azizi only went to hand over the hostages, and a number of student followers of the imam's policy went to the airport as guards; such an action cannot be interpreted as a send-off.

According to our correspondent's report, in another part of the interview Mr Behzad Nabavi was asked: Canada is ready to reestablish diplomatic relations with Iran; would Iran agree to this? Mr Nabavi replied: Should Canada undertake to refrain from espionage and unlawful and kidnapping activities within our jurisdiction, we could then study this issue and reach a decision on it.

He was asked: Apart from a military solution, what other method is there for solving the clash between Iran and Iraq? Mr Nabavi said: When all Iraqi forces are withdrawn from Iran; otherwise there will never be any talks.

LONDON PAPER QUESTIONS NABAVI ON HOSTAGE AGREEMENT

LD271217 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 27 Jan 81 p 28

[Amit Roy dispatch: "Iranians Distrust Reagan"]

[Excerpt] Tehran--Iran will not be surprised if President Reagan fails to honour the agreement which freed the 52 American hostages, Mr Behzad Nabavi, executive affairs minister, said yesterday.

Mr Nabavi, who handled the intricate negotiations, had a cynical smile when asked whether the Algerians, who acted as intermediaries, would be embarrassed or angered if America's new administration reneged on the hostage deal.

"No, they won't be angry. They know what the Americans are like."

When I asked Mr Nabavi to reply to allegations of ill-treatment by some of the hostages, he said he had already issued a denial and would do so again at a news conference today.

But he said the manner in which American officials made the allegations in Frankfurt had all the hallmarks of a stage-managed affair.

When I suggested that British and American interests in Iran were not necessarily identical and that the Bank of England had refused to follow the Americans in freezing Iranian assets, he gave a contemptuous laugh. "They are just merchants," he said.

Nor did he believe the West would revise what it regarded in Tehran as its policy of supporting Iraq in the Gulf war.

Mr Nabavi gave the impression of being a tough and skillful negotiator.

Despite the release of the hostages he did not foresee an improvement in relations with the West, particularly America.

"Even if they are ready, we are not," he said. This position would remain "until the West stops working against the Iranian revolution."

TEHRAN RIDICULES CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

GF271235 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "The Medals of Freedom Awarded by Carter"]

[Excerpts] The international press has reported that Carter awarded medals to his colleagues while he was preparing to leave the White House, where he worked during his term of office. The medals in question were awarded to people such as Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and Secretary of State Edmund Muskie. Hollywood actor Kirk Douglas and CBS announcer Walter Cronkite were among those who were honored with medals along with Carter's close associates.

The awarding of medals by presidents is quite normal and every head of state or government can award medals to whomever he pleases. That Carter should name the medals he awarded to these individuals, though, is a matter worth considering.

Although Carter failed to achieve success in many fields during his 4-year term, he covered significant ground in the fields of freedom and human rights, to which he had promised the world he would commit himself. Traces of Carter's promises on freedom and human rights can be observed particularly in the Middle East and in the recognized rights of the Palestinian people.

During his term of office, Carter persistently refused to recognize the Palestinian people's rights and promised not to negotiate with them, either directly or indirectly. As part of this policy, Carter succeeded in sending treacherous As-Sadat to Tel Aviv to kiss Begin's hand, something that Arab heads of state would not have thought possible during the past 30 years. Furthermore, the ugly Camp David agreement, which takes no notice of the Palestinian people's rights and the sacred aspirations of the Arab world, is the poisonous outcome of the policy pursued by Carter, who claimed to champion human rights and to uphold freedom.

Concentrating military power in the Gulf and deploying assault units in the region, threatening and attacking the Iranian Islamic revolution, intensifying assaults and oppression in South America, collaborating with (word indistinct) and antipopulist regimes in Africa, fanning disputes in the international domain and thousands of other similar actions are the prominent achievements of Carter, who claimed that during his term his policies would be based on the concept of freedom and human rights.

Carter was a president who championed and monopolized the concept of human rights and liberties, regardless of the fact that he had no excuse for the issues of Vietnam, Congo and Cuba. His intention was to prove to the world that apart from himself there was no other leader in the West with enough foresight and virtue to (?defend) the principles in which he believed. Defending freedom and human rights was Carter's responsibility alone. He was the only person capable of executing this historic duty in the United States and probably throughout the world as well, with the use of military power.

Despite all of this, however, the ungrateful people of the United States disregarded the efforts Carter exerted for 4 years to defend human rights and liberties and shelved his file. Nevertheless, regardless of the ungrateful people of the United States, Carter deeply believes in the concept of freedom and human rights. He has proven this by awarding medals of liberty to those who shared his belief.

In effect, however, Carter awarded medals to those who upheld the policies he pursued in the international domain during his term of office. If we take into consideration the fact that Kirk Douglas and Walter Cronkite were among those who received medals, the meaning behind the awards becomes clearer. Anyone who realizes the reality of the service done for freedom by Kirk Douglas and Walter Cronkite will also have a clear picture of Carter's intention in awarding the medals of liberty.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR RAJA'I

LD271202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1043 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The Central News Bureau correspondent reports that, in preagenda speeches at today's open session of the Majlis, Mohammad Javad Sherafat, Shushtar representative, referred to the plots hatched by anti-Islamic groups from the beginning of the revolution. He asked: Do you know of any revolution in which the enemies of the revolution are armed with all kinds of weapons, have endless propaganda facilities at their disposal, live in [word indistinct] houses, and are freely allowed to conspire, murder and spread corruption inside society from the time of the first flowering of the revolution? Finally, he asked the country's responsible officials to define the limits for activities by these little groups, because the people can no longer tolerate the freedom given these groups to conspire, after all of the killings and deprivation. At the end, he confirmed the government's measures in dealing with the hostages issue.

Today's open session ended at 1210 and tomorrow's session will be held at 0800.

According to the Central News Bureau, more than 120 deputies of the Islamic Majlis addressed a letter to Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, praising the government for its handling of the hostage issue and implementing the Majlis' recommendations. The text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, honorable prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, may God support you, government's [words indistinct] in observing the conditions set by the Islamic Majlis in solving the issue of the American hostages, once again delighted our friends and angered our enemies.

The incident of the American den of espionage in Iran, which began at the hands of the dear Muslim student followers of the imam's policy and was terminated in the best possible manner at the efficient hands of the government following the imam, is no doubt a great achievement in our proud Islamic revolution, which the imam rightly interpreted as a greater revolution.

Obviously, the release of the hostages in return for bringing the greatest oppressor of the world to its knees, in accord with the conditions set by the Islamic Majlis, does not end our uncompromising struggle against blasphemy and universal oppression. Now, criminal America is trying to cover up its defeat and, if possible, to pretend that this disgraceful defeat is a victory and an act of revenge on the enemy who forced the defeat upon it. It is making its last doomed efforts to weaken your young and ideological government. Unfortunately, some newspapers, for various reasons, assist the great Satan in achieving its doomed objective and resort to any measure to poison the minds of the public, ignoring the fact that the great nation's revolutionary diligence will certainly neutralize these conspiracies. Your Excellency's clear and unambiguous remarks at the Islamic Majlis session on 26 January once again proved the victory of honesty over trickery and turned the stream of [word indistinct] of the great Satan back upon itself.

While expressing our thanks to Your Excellency and the government, we beseech Almighty God for your success in following the imam and in moving on the authentic path of dear Islam.

BANI-SADR LEAVES FOR KHUZESTAN INSPECTION TOUR

LD271726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the armed forces, left for Khuzestan this afternoon to inspect the war fronts and to supervise the operations of the fighting forces of the revolution on the battlefields.

REPRESENTATIVES AT VOICE AND VISION RESIGN

LD271330 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] The following statement was issued by representatives of the state prosecutor general on the supervisory council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In His exalted name. Now that the supervisory council of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been appointed, and considering the fact that Ayatollah Musavi Ardabili, the state prosecutor general, appointed us as supervisors of this organization until the responsible official was appointed by the three branches of state power, our mission is now ended and we have no further role in supervising this organization as of this date.

[Signed] 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami, 'Abdollah Nuri

MIR SALIM TO INVESTIGATE SITUATION OF WAR VICTIMS

LD272118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Following the imam of the Islamic nation's emphasis on the need to investigate the situation of the war victims, the public relations department of the Prime Ministry issed a statement tonight that announced: Engineer Mir Salim, the political and social under secretary at the Interior Ministry, has been delegated to investigate the affairs of the war victims. The text of the Prime Ministry statement, which was placed at our disposal at 2245, is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The imam of the Islamic nation--the beating and roaring heart of the Islamic revolution--in his meeting with Mr Raja'i, the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, strongly emphasized the problems of the country's war victims and called for an even closer and better investigation on the country's war victims who have suffered a great deal from the attack made by Saddam at-Tikriti's mercenaries. In this connection Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, held a session tonight attended by Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, the interior minister; Mr Mir Salim, the political and social under secretary to the Interior Ministry; and Mr Shafiq, the official responsible for the imam's relief committee. After discussions and an exchange of views lasting 3 hours, Mr Mir Salim was appointed by Mr Mahdavi-Kani as the official directly responsible for investigating the war victims' affairs. In order to fully investigate and organize the relevant affairs, it was also decided that he should accept this matter as the only task to be dealt with by the political and social under secretary of the Interior Ministry.

TEHRAN PREDICTS FAILURE OF ISLAMIC SUMMIT

JN272041 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jan 81

[From the "Political Followups" program]

[Excerpts] The At-Ta'if summit conference has met, yet we still do not know what it produced. In fact we are sure that the conference will produce nothing. Furthermore, it has revealed what we have frequently stressed: that this summit is not able to rise to the level of the Islamic masses' desires and is unable to cope with their fateful causes.

It is impossible to believe that those who caused the present calamities can possibly bring an end to them. What kind of solutions can such persons, who are facing problems with their peoples regarding the legitimacy of their representation at the various conferences, reach? Saddam is one of those unimportant figures, who have been firmly rejected by the Islamic masses. The masses, represented by their various parties and vocational organizations, have made it clear that Saddam and those like him represent their U.S. overlords at this conference.

We are not startled to see that the conference has ended [as heard] in vain, for we expected from the very beginning that a conference attended by persons like Qabus, Saddam and Husayn, and boycotted by the Iran of the Islamic revolution, is doomed to failure and cannot move even one step toward the real Islam.

The conference has failed even in making their excellencies the kings and presidents pledge to liberate Jerusalem. Perhaps Saddam was the first to refuse such a pledge because he, in particular, has no right to make such a pledge and because he knows very well that his lying colleagues will not applaud him.

How can an agent like Saddam pledge to liberate Jerusalem after he has destroyed the Iraqi Army on the borders of the Islamic Republic? How can he promise to liberate Jerusalem after he has exposed the Iraqi economic institutions to complete destruction? How can this disgraceful agent liberate Jerusalem after he has dragged the Iraqi youth into filthy war, so that he can annihilate them rather than let one of them dare to brandish his fist in the face of Saddam's filthy regime and his cowardly clique.

IRANIANS IN KUWAIT SEND MEDICAL SUPPLIES HOME

GF271755 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] According to a PARS report from Damascus, a number of benevolent Iranians residing in Kuwait have sent medical supplies worth 5 million riyals to Tehran as aid for the war victims in Iran. The materials were delivered to the Red Crescent Society in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

ETTELA'AT DETAILS PESHMERGA OPERATIONS IN IRAQ

JN271949 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1840 GMT 27 Jan 81

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Large-Scale Attack Against the Ba'thist Forces by the Iraqi Kurds," the newspaper ETTELA'AT writes: Reports received from Iraq say that the Iraqi Kurds have dealt heavy blows to the Iraqi regime through their offensive operations against the Ba'thist bases.

The newspaper adds that the Iraqi Patriotic Union of Kurdistan announced in its latest statement that the Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga have carried out several operations against the Ba'thist bases in northern Iraq. These operations, numbering more than 50, have led to the deaths of 146 of agent Saddam's mercenaries, including 18 Jordanian soldiers. In addition, 118 soldiers were wounded and 12 others were taken captive. They also destroyed 10 military vehicles and shot down 2 helicopters.

The statement of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan added that 7 Kurdish peshmerga were martyred and 12 were wounded during these operations.

IRAQI OFFICERS EXECUTED FOLLOWING MILITARY SETBACKS

GF271619 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Reports received by the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran say that 22 officers in the Iraqi Army, which is deceived by the agent Saddam regime, were executed over the past few days on orders from traitor Saddam. The executions reportedly took place following the Iraqi Army's retreat on the Khuzestan and Kermanshah fronts and the border strip of the Ilam governorate and after the complete destruction of an Iraqi mountain battalion by our heroic Islamic forces. Among the executed were four colonels and two majors. Observers say the execution of the Iraqi officers on orders from Saddam indicates the existance of new disagreements within the ruling party in Iraq.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Abadan, Susangerd Bombarded

LD231884 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1639 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Communique 383 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Fighting Muslim nation, some of the operations in those areas engaged in battle between the forces of right and the forces of the devil in the last 24 hours were as follows:

1. This morning the enemy took aim at the city of Abadan and fired mortars, which caused minor damage.

Last night too, the invader Iraqi forces brought certain parts of Abadan under their shellfire, inflicting some damage. On Abadan's various fronts, artillery exchanges between the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the invader enemy continued, and the enemy suffered some losses and casualties. There is no exact information on the number of enemy dead and wounded. In the last 24 hours in this region, 8 were martyred and 45 were wounded. [presumably referring to Iranian soldiers]

2. The city of Susangerd was under intense artillery fire by the Iraqi invader forces. The combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran also brought the enemy under its artillery and mortar fire. On this front, 3 of our forces were martyred and 13 were wounded.

3. Yesterday, the enemy's positions in the Khuinshahr region were brought under heavy fire by Islam's combatant forces, with some losses and casualties inflicted on the enemy. Also, artillery of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran brought the enemy's positions in the Kut az-Zayn region under fire, inflicting considerable losses and casualties, the extent of which has not been ascertained.

4. Yesterday the exchange of artillery fire between our forces and the enemy's in the Andimeshk area was intensified, and in the Shush region part of the invader Iraqi forces--which intended to advance--was suppressed and destroyed by the combatant forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

5. In the course of engagements in the Nowsud region yesterday, two of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces' personnel [short break in transmission] Gendarmerie wounded and three of the invaders, too, were killed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

26 Jan Casualties Reported

LD271740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Communique 387 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The report on military operations in the country's southern and western regions on 26 January 1981 is hereby released for the information of the public:

1. In the Abadan and Susangerd regions, Islam's combatants succeeded in destroying 2 vehicles, 2 bulldozers, 2 mortars, 1 heavy machinegun and an ammunition dump of the forces of blasphemy and killed 60 of their men. In the area southwest of Susangerd, thanks to the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Gendarmerie, 5 enemy trenches, 2 observation posts and a number of foxholes were destroyed and 10 aggressors were either killed or wounded.

2. In the Dezful region, thanks to fire from our own units, an enemy tank, a loader, a fuel tanker and a vehicle were destroyed and 35 Iraqi mercenaries were killed. In the same region, as a result of enemy fire, a number of houses were damaged.

3. On the Karkheh and western Andimeshk fronts the exchange of artillery fire raged intensely and on the Shush front three soldiers of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army were martyred.

4. Thanks to recurrent enemy artillery fire against Abadan's residential districts, three houses and one government building were damaged. As a result of this cowardly action 10 of our valiant compatriots in Abadan were martyred and another 39 were wounded.

5. In the western region, battle continued to rage in the form of artillery and mortar exchanges in the vicinity of (Meymak), Konjancham and Shinu.

6. On one of the fronts in the western part of the country the gendarmerie personnel, with the cooperation of the guards corps, opened intense fire on the positions of the enemies of Islam and were able to destroy 15 enemy trenches and ammunition tents, killing or wounding a number of aggressors.

7. Thanks to the ground-to-air fire of the soldiers of Islam, two aggressive Iraqi aircraft that violated the Bushehr region's airspace were forced to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Reservists Called Up

LD271742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Unnumbered communique of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran issued on 27 January]

[Text] In His exalted name. The commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran decreed tonight that persons who completed their military service in 1974, 1975, 1976 and 1978 [as heard] and who are on the armed forces reserve list should be summoned to service on a voluntary basis as of 4 February 1981.

Therefore, those persons who completed their service in the aforementioned years must report to the conscription offices, military posts and gendarmerie battalions and register their names, in accordance with announcements that will be issued in this connection by the General Conscription Office.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS CORPS RECOUNTS WESTERN FRONT OPERATIONS

LD271840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] According to PARS, the following statement was issued today by the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps:

In His exalted name. The heroic forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps are attacking Saddam's aggressive forces, just as Hoseyn did on the battlefields between truth and falsehood, and by sacrificing all they have they are guarding beloved Islam and our Islamic homeland. The following report is issued to inform our Islamic nation of the operations of the heroic forces of Islam during the past 2 days:

In Susangerd, as a result of mortar fire by our guards brothers south of the Hamidiyeh-Susangerd road, 5 enemy tanks and 18 trenches were destroyed, and more than 25 Iraqi mercenaries were killed or wounded. In these operations a large quantity of the mercenary enemy's ammunition was captured by our self-sacrificing brothers.

In Dehloran and Ilam, following intense fire from heavy and light weapons of the guards brothers, many enemy trenches and foxholes were destroyed and more than 15 deceived mercenaries were killed or wounded. Complete superiority is enjoyed on this front by the forces of Islam.

Following the penetration of two of our guards brothers' guerrilla groups into Shirvan, an Iraqi city, one police station and one headquarters building of the Iraqi security organization were attacked, as a result of which a great deal of damage and loss was inflicted upon the infidel enemy. After distributing some leaflets throughout the city containing the imam's speeches and enlightening messages, these brothers returned safely to their bases.

GUARDS CORPS PRAISES TRIBAL FORCES' OPERATIONS

LD271822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] According to PARS, the exchange of artillery, light and heavy weapons fire continues on the Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin, Gilan-e Gharb and Meymak fronts, in the Provinces of Kermanshahan and Ilam. On the Gilan-e Gharb front last night, the combatants of Islam destroyed three enemy tanks and one antiaircraft gun with precise artillery fire.

According to a report from the Nowsud front received by the PARS office at Kermanshah, from 2200 on 25 January until 0500 on 26 January there was a clash between the combatants of Islam and one commando unit of Saddam at-Tikriti's forces. During this clash the combatants of Islam routed the enemy commando unit and killed its commander. The combatants of Islam also destroyed two enemy vehicles loaded with ammunition and one enemy mortar position on this front.

The PARS correspondent, quoting the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps headquarters of the west of the country, reported: Artillery and mortar fire of the Islamic revolution guards and other combatants of Islam destroyed several enemy personnel carriers and two "five-five" guns, along with their observers.

The PARS correspondent, in another telephone conversation from Kermanshah, reported: Sumar region in the last night, as a result of artillery fire and accurate firing by the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, one a mmunition depot and one enemy vehicle were destroyed.

(Jalal Pulaki), official in charge of the public relations office of the mobilization of the oppressed of the western tribesmen, said in a telephone conversation with PARS: A group of brave brothers of the tribal mobilization, who inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in Tang-e Hajian and seized a considerable amount of booty, including 30 RPG-7's, several Kalashnikov rifles, 75-mm machineguns and field glasses, was praised by this headquarters. The spoils of war were handed over to the guards corps after discussion.

(Jalal Pulaki) also said: Another group, members of the struggling tribesmen of Alashtar, Khorramabad, who achieved some successes in combat against the forces of blasphemy, was also praised by this headquarters. The volunteer members of the mobilization of the oppressed of the Alashtar tribe seized 72 RPG-7's, 4 mortars and 4 walkie-talkies during their battle with the forces of blasphemy. This equipment was also handed over to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

According to the PARS report, the struggling forces of Islam, during their operations on 23 January in the Marivan border strip of the Asha hills, succeeded with fire from heavy weapons and artillery in destroying three enemy vehicles and one cannon. They also inflicted a number of blows on the mercenary forces of Iraq.

According to a report of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, on 23 January positions of the Iraqi aggressive forces in the vicinity of Bashmaq, along the Iraq-Iran border in the region of Marivan and (Taybeh), came under heavy fire from the struggling forces of the revolution. During this operation several enemy trenches were destroyed and around 70 deceived personnel of Iraq were either killed or wounded.

AHVAZ ORGANIZATION REPORT ON KHUZESTAN FIGHTING

LD271840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] The public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Ahvaz reported the following to the PARS correspondent: On 25 January, the revolution guards opened mortar fire on enemy positions on the Karkheh Kur axis; during these operations several enemy trenches were destroyed and a number of Iraqi infidels were either killed or wounded. In addition, according to this report, our own forces have suffered on casualties in operations over the past 2 days.

Similarly, the Central News Bureau's correspondent learned from the public relations office of the Khuzestan governorate general: Our brother guards deployed on the Allaho Akbar Heights succeeded with mortar fire in destroying two enemy tanks, one loader and several trenches belonging to the Iraqi mercenaries. According to a Central News Bureau dispatch from Ahvaz, our self-sacrificing guards brothers on the Farsiab front yesterday destroyed 1 mercenary pesonnel carrier and killed some 10 servicemen of the Iraqi infidel forces by mortar fire. According to the same report, the cities of Susangerd and Dezful were the target of enemy artillery fire, as a result of which several houses were damaged.

Contacting Khuzestan's relief and treatment staff headquarters, the PARS correspondent also learned: During the past 24 hours the pure bodies of two of Islam's suicide combatants were moved into cold storage in Ahvaz from the Ahvaz and Susangerd fronts. During the same period eight wounded men were taken from the Susangerd, Karkheh Kur and Jalaliyeh fronts to various hospitals. According to the same report, 10 wounded combatants were moved into Andimeshk hospital from the front of the imposed war over the last 24 hours.

According to a PARS correspondent in Ahvaz, quoting the relief and medical staff headquarters in Dezful, during the same period the pure bodies of two martyred soldiers who had fought the Iraqi infidels on the country's western fronts were put into cold storage in Dezful. The PARS correspondent in Ahvaz also reported form the Shush front: One group of combatants that defended truth and justice by launching a guerrilla attack yesterday afternoon on the Shush front and on the western bank of the Karkheh River succeeded in dealing fatal blows to the infidel enemy. One of the proud combatants in the group said in an interview with the PARS correspondent this afternoon in Ahvaz: During this attack, 50 Iraqi infidels were killed in 3 minutes. This brother also said: During these operations, well supported by mortar fire from the heroic Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the soldiers of Islam succeeded in destroying 6 enemy trenches, defusing 20 of their antipersonnel mines and capturing 3 Kalashnikov guns. At the conclusion of these successful operations, all of these architects of glory, comprising the forces dispatched by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the tribal mobilization forces, returned safely to base.

Contacting the PARS correspondent in Ahvaz at 1825 today, a responsible official from the city's security staff headquarters announced: Between 0900 and 1600 today the Iraqi mercenaries fired a total of four cannon shells at houses in Ahvaz. As a result of this inhuman action by Saddam's mercenaries, one of the inhavitants of Ahvaz was martyred and another three were wounded.

RAMHORMOZ GUARDS MOBILIZE RECRUITS 27 JAN

GF271410 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] The mobilization department of the Ramhormoz Islamic Revolution Guards, in a communique, orders all individuals who have been trained by this unit to report to headquarters no later than 1400 tomorrow.

REVOLUTION HEADQUARTERS COMMENTS ON SUBVERSION

LD271936 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Statement issued by the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Committee on 27 January]

[Text] In His exalted name. Now that the legal foundations of the Islamic revolution of Iran have been established with the help of God and through the efforts of the zealous and Muslim nation of Iran, and now that these foundations are being strengthened through legal channels, the counterrevolutionaries' hopes of taking advantage of a lack of coordination--which naturally exists for some time after every revolution--are being destroyed.

Some individuals and groups are creating tension and deviations of thought through unprincipled and unaware actions or through conspiratorial and deceitful behavior. The burning of several bookshops in Tehran is an example of this.

The central headquarters of the Islamic revolution committees, which is alertly watching these moves, will fight with all of its power, in conjunction with the revolutionary and legal forces, and with the wholehearted support and cooperation of the Muslim nation, against any unwise action or conspiracy that is harmful to the revolution. The central headquarters is trying to identify the agents who commit these crimes. [statement is not signed]

KURDISH RADIO: MARTIAL LAW IMPOSED IN URUMIYEH

JN261651 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] Urumiyeh--Our correspondent in Urumiyeh reports that the situation there is abnormal and has deteriorated. The (?charlatan) regime is trying to force the heroic people of Urumiyeh, who are denouncing the regime, to [words indistinct] by resorting to the new method of imposing martial law on the town. [passage indistinct]

Reports reaching us indicated that martial law is in effect as of 2200 in Urumiyeh and that no one is allowed to leave his house. Otherwise, the guards will open fire [words indistinct] his parents after 2200 [words indistinct] and died for lack of medical treatment.

The latest reports say that on 15 January 1981, a large demonstration was held in Urumiyeh by [words indistinct] and workers in Urumiyeh in Al-Khayyam Street. They shouted slogans against the regime and expressed their denunciation of the government [words indistinct].

KURDISH RADIO REPORTS ON DEMONSTRATION IN MASHHAD

JN271542 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Mashhad--The paper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says that an antiregime demonstration was staged in Mashhad a few days ago. The demonstrators attacked the office of the Iranian Islamic Republican Party and broke its windows.

The paper adds that this incident took place following statements made by its chief editor.

It seems that the dispute among the regime's authorities is escalating daily.

AZARBAYJANIS ABANDONING ANTI-KURDISH ACTS

JN271902 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Surani Kurdish 1230 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Text] Reports from Naqadeh indicate that the militant Azarbayjani peasants in the area of Sondos, who have been deceived for quite some time and have been used to serving reaction's interests at the expense of those of their people, are now realizing the foul objectives of the reactionaries. The brother Azarbayjani peasants are now realizing the objectives of those who gave them arms in order to instigate fratricide among the people's ranks. These brothers now realize that fratricide only serves the interests of the reactionary cliques and remnants of SAVAK, like Mahmudi, Husni and Qatari, who sold themselves to the people's enemies.

The reports indicate that several persons in the Azarbayjani villages have abandoned their arms. Eight Azarbayjanis in the village of Chayan, 2 persons in (Balqatchi), 12 persons in (Shaytan Abad) and more than 50 others in Naqadeh have abandoned their arms. They have asserted that they will no longer serve the SAVAK elements and will not fight their brother Kurds.

Majid Khan, one of the mercenaries who sold himself to the mercenaries and to the remnants of SAVAK, tried to open an office in the village of (Shaytan Abad) but was faced with strong opposition from the inhabitants.

The decision of our brother Azarbayjanis relieves us greatly. We are happy to see that those persons who until recently have been serving SAVAK and have been antagonizing us, those persons who have been killing militant Kurds, have now realized that all of these plots are intended to instigate fratricide.

We have frequently announced and announce here today that we, the Kurdish people, antagonize no one. We respect and take into high consideration the rights of all Iranian peoples. We are confident that through our unity, we can together conquer the enemies of the militant Iranian people.

FREE VOICE OF IRAN REPORTS ON KURDISH STRUGGLE

GF261723 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 26 Jan 81

[Text] The fighting between Kurdish fighters and the [word indistinct] forces of Khomeyni's regime in Kordestan continues. According to reports, the Kurdish fighters enjoy the upper hand, due to the fact that the war is in their territory. The same reports stress that the revolution guards' casualties in Kurdish areas of the country are increasing daily. The Kurdish fighters are holding a large group of guards in their prisons.

SUMMARY OF 23 JAN RADIO IRAN PROGRAMMING

NC240857 [Editorial Report] The clandestine Radio Iran in Persian to Iran on 23 January carried news, recorded reports from its correspondents giving press and other media reviews on the hostages' release, and a continuation of the manifesto of the National Resistance Movement of Iran, asking supporters of the movement to record today's program and to place it at the disposal of those who were unable to listen to the broadcast.

Before broadcasting the manifesto, the radio carried a commentary on former President Carter's remarks after his meeting with the hostages to the effect there is no one who can doubt that the hostages were treated in an inhumane way. The commentary added that it is deeply regrettable that the Iranians, as a people, are being blamed for this. The commentary then goes on to say that the people of Iran have been treated and are being treated by the regime in the same way or worse than the treatment received by the hostages, but that no one has come to the assistance of a nation that has a history and a culture and whose children are being sacrificed to preserve respect for this history and culture. After a brief interval of martial music, the National Resistance Movement's manifesto, heard at points to state its policies and objectives, was broadcast.

ANTI-SOVIET REMARKS BY MAJLIS DEPUTIES CRITICIZED

TA272050 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 27 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary: "Do Not Divert the Attention of the Iranian Nation From the Principle Enemy, the Arch-Satan"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Under conditions in which rabid U.S. imperialism has mobilized all of its power to carry out plots and aggression against Iran and ultimately to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic and install a dependent regime, and has actually exposed our country to attack--under conditions when the imam of the nation is reiterating the necessity and urgency of continuing and intensifying anti-American struggles--it is being observed, unfortunately that certain individuals and elements in our country have stepped into the arena to divert the attention of our homeland's people from the principle enemy, imperialism, led by rabid U.S. imperialism.

By repeating a handful of myths fabricated by the former SAVAK and Western propaganda organizations, these elements have concocted imaginary enemies for Iran, in order to deprive liberated Iran of the support of its true friends in the international arena and to isolate it in the face of the plots of U.S. imperialism. To implement their evil and selfish motives, these gentlemen interpret and define the slogan "Neither Eastern nor Western"--which from the theoretical and revolutionary viewpoint implies no dependence of any kind on outsiders--in accord with their own wishes, which are aimed at adopting an erroneous hostile policy toward countries that are friends to our homeland.

In addition to the propaganda tumult created by certain pro-liberal press organs, unfortunately, some deputies in the Islamic Consultative Assembly have recently taken steps in this direction. For example, Mr Hashem Sabaghian allegedly construed the struggle against U.S. imperialism as ended and said that the principled and primary struggle against the treacherous Eastern enemy and its internal elements and mercenaries should begin.

Also, Mr 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, during his remarks in the Majlis, emphasized that we should not only struggle against the United States but against the Soviet Union as well.

We are not concerned about with which wing these gentlemen are associated. However, what is important is into whose mill are they pouring grist? It is certain that the attempts by these gentlemen and their muddying of the waters will result in the weakening of the Islamic Republic of Iran and will deprive it of the support and backing of progressive mankind. The raising of the Brezezinski slogan of struggle against the East and above all struggle against the Soviet Union, is precisely what is still being implemented by the followers of the Carters and the Brzezinskis in our country.

Yes, the Iranian people want their liberated homeland to be free of dependence on any country of government. This nation wants to be independent, free and the ruler of its own destiny. However, this does not imply that Iran should isolate itself in the world or should treat its enemies and friends alike and be all alone in the face of the real enemy, its steadfast and treacherous enemy, the arch-Satan, U.S. imperialism and its allies, who are hatching plots against Iran.

We are addressing the Iranian people: a people who, by their glorious revolution put an end to the plundering domination of U.S. imperialism and who are thoroughly acquainted with the true faces of these gentlemen who dance to the tune of the Brzezinskis. These gentlemen outwardly beat their breasts for the so-called independence of Iran. However, in practice, by cowardly exploiting (?correct) slogans and by taking advantage of the people's pure sentiments, they strive to entangle our liberated homeland once again in the trap of bondage to imperialism, above all to world-devouring U.S. imperialism.

Contrary to the hollow claims of certain suspicious elements who strive to consign the struggle against the West, particularly against the world-devouring America, to oblivion, and who strive to direct the struggles of the people against what they call the East, namely against the true friends of the Iranian nation and revolution, our homeland's people have, through experience, recognized their friends and enemies well. The people have observed and continue to observe, through experience, that U.S. imperialism and its Western allies have not and are not refraining from hatching plots against liberated Iran. Our homeland's people have also observed and continue to observe through experience that the Soviet Union and its allies have always adopted and continue to adopt a stance in defense of the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is as a result of this unstinting support and backing that world-devouring America cannot fulfill its satanic plans against our country. Those who try to ignore the plots of U.S. imperialism against Iran and who concoct mythical and imaginary enemies for Iran are actually pouring grist into the mill of the enemies of the Iranian revolution, above all world-devouring U.S. imperialism.

NVOI COMMENTS ON U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN GULF

TA271840 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 27 January carried a commentary, entitled "The Military Preparations of U.S. Imperialism Are Increasing," saying: As we are aware the Carter administration had threatened Iran with military aggression in the face of our nation's legitimate demands. The new U.S. President, Reagan, has portrayed himself as one who will continue that policy toward Iran. He strongly defends the strengthening of U.S. military power in the Persian Gulf, which entails a threat to our country and is tantamount to military intervention in the internal affairs of other oil-exporting countries of this region. Recent events are proof of the fact that the new U.S. administration has completely accepted Carter's neo-colonialist doctrine with regard to the Persian Gulf and intends to continue that same adventurous policy in this sensitive and important region. The United States is extensively escalating its military preparations in the Persian Gulf. As has been learned, the Pentagon has also prepared a plan for mining our country's ports. These adventurous measures involve the other countries of the Persian Gulf region as well and can result in the closing of the Strait of Hormuz.

The escalation of U.S. military power off the coasts of the Persian Gulf and in U.S. bases around the Gulf indicate that the new President of the United States does not intend to review Carter's aggressive policies toward Iran and other countries of the Persian Gulf region.

The preparations for U.S. military aggression against our Islamic Republic are gaining intensity. These measures have again intensified the activities of the Savakists, shah-lovers, counterrevolutionary elements and even the compromising liberals within our country and abroad, however, the Iranian nation is vigilant and is ready to defend its revolutionary gains. All the world's progressive forces support our nation's struggle in safeguarding the Islamic Republic of Iran and its revolutionary gains.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON SOVIET CASUALITIES IN AFGHANISTAN

Report From Rebel Sources

JN251323 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jan 81

[Text] Muslim Afghan revolutionaries have stated that they killed approximately 500 Soviet and 600 government soldiers during recent battles in Parvan Province. Reports mention that fighting is still in progress between the two sides. Reports add that revolutionaries attacked the Soviet forces' headquarters in Qandahar and also killed more than 50 members of Afghanistan's ruling party in northern Kabul.

Ex-Government Official Cited

JN240730 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Jan 81

[Text] An Afghan Government official who escaped from his country has stated that 250 Soviet soldiers are being killed or wounded in Afghanistan daily.

The official, who held the post of assistant health minister, told press correspondents that Afghan Government sources have estimated Soviet losses at 1,300 to 1,600 persons since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Other reports, however, estimated Soviet losses at more than 5,000 dead during this period. The Afghan official added that the bodies of Soviet soldiers were initially transported to the Soviet Union for burial, but that they are now being buried in a certain place in Afghanistan.

BRIEFS

KAZERUN FOUNDATION CHIEF--Hojjat ol-Eslam Imani, the Friday imam of Kazerun, has been elected director of the Kazerun martyrs foundation. The Kazerun martyrs foundation started functioning officially in this district on 21 January. [Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 27 Jan 81 GF]